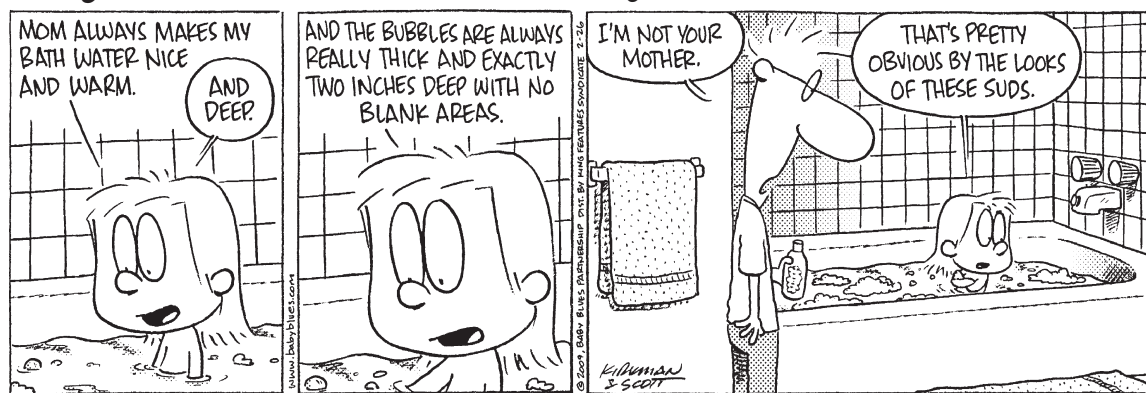
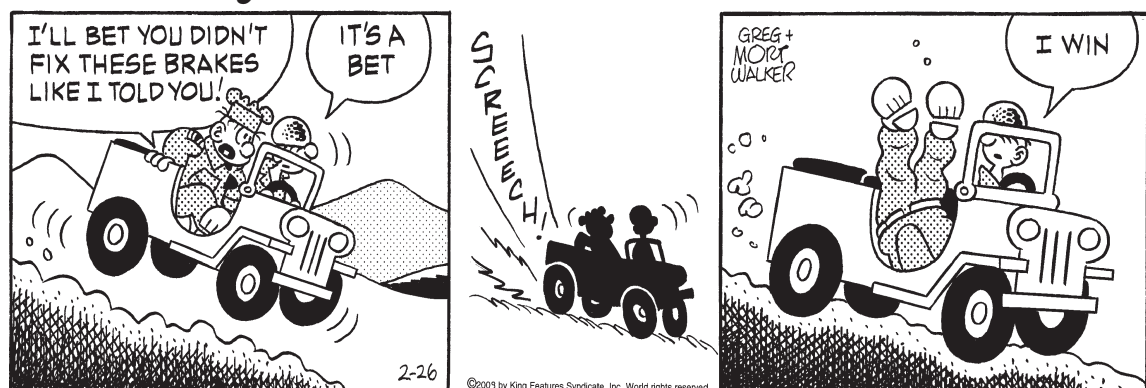


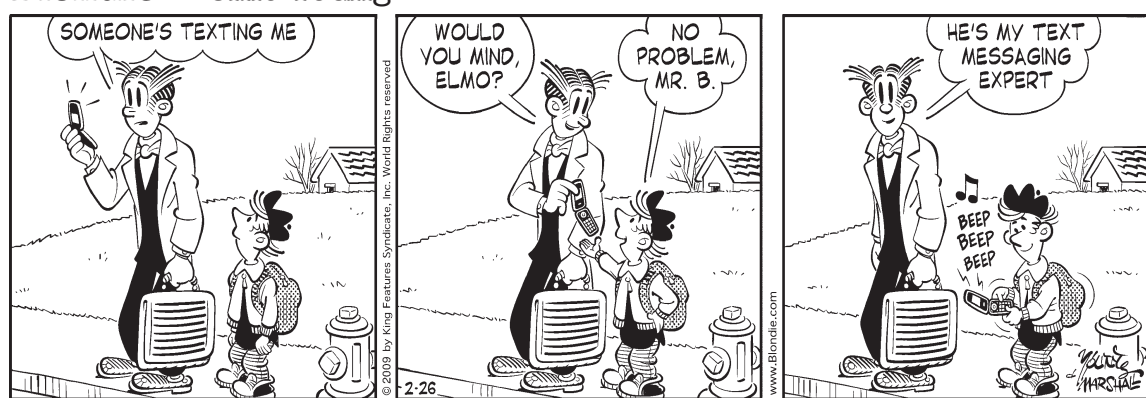
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



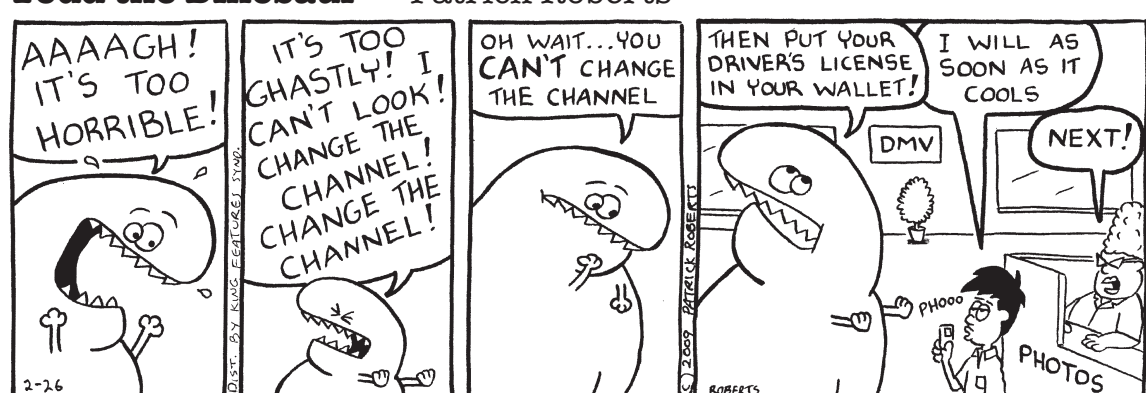
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



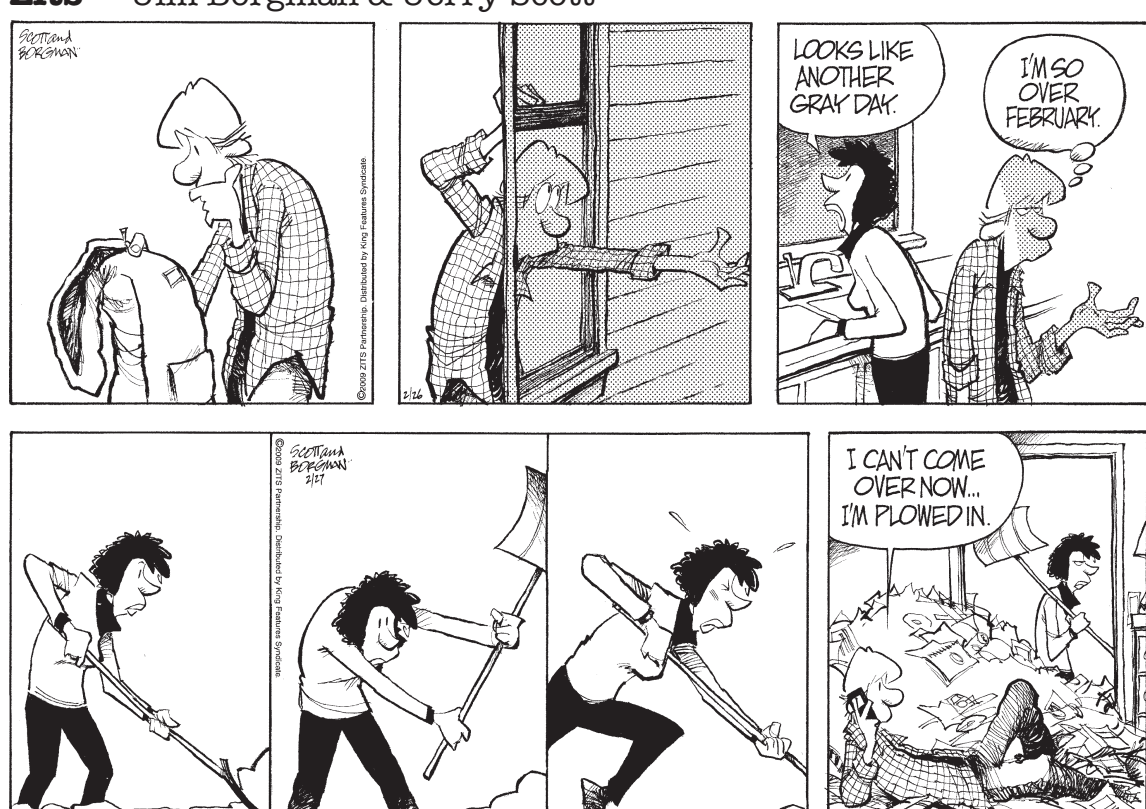
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Dr. Joyce Brothers**  
• Ask Dr. Brothers

**Take initiative on your career**

Dear Dr. Brothers: My husband has been working at a dead-end job that he hates for years now, and it's making me very frustrated. I am a pediatrician, and have been very career-motivated ever since I started medical school. I don't care about the money aspect of my husband's job, but it's hard for me to see him stagnating and being unhappy, and not trying to do anything about it. How can I bring this up without sounding condescending, and help him figure out a way forward? — D.R.

Dear D.R.: It can be a difficult situation when you and your spouse have very different career goals, especially when you have gender stereotypes to contend with. The first important step you have to take is to discover what your husband's true ideal job would be, and what his motivations are. The best thing you can do for your husband is help him find out what he really is passionate about. It sounds like the job, and maybe even the entire line of work he is in currently, is not what drives him to perform. If that's the case, going back to school or taking an entry-level job in something he truly enjoys could be the best next step, even if that seems to you like going backward. However, if your husband really is just stuck in a dead end and wants to advance in his career, some motivation from you might be just the thing to kick-start him. Next time he complains about his job, you can use that to start a conversation about what he reasonably could do to move up in the world. It could be as easy as asking for a promotion or changing departments, or as drastic as quitting and starting fresh somewhere new.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I had a job interview recently, and I'm afraid I accidentally might have flirted with my interviewer. I wasn't attracted to him, but for some reason, now that I look back on the way I was acting and the things I said, I realize that I might have been a little inappropriate. The interviewer didn't comment, and the whole experience felt very natural, actually. Why did I do this? Will it hurt my chances of getting the job? — C.B.

Dear C.B.: This "accidental" flirtation might not have been your fault at all, and actually it is surprising that you even noticed your own flirtatious behavior. Often, a male interviewer who, for whatever reason — likely having nothing to do with the woman's actions — thinks that a woman interviewing with him is attracted to him will be able to subtly elicit flirtatious behavior from that woman. It sounds like your flirtation was quite subtle, in which case your interviewer may not even have noticed. One thing that you should be on the lookout for, if you are hired and decide to take this job, is the potential for this seemingly innocuous flirtation to escalate to true inappropriate behavior. You should make your professional boundaries very clear from day one to make sure that this man doesn't get the wrong idea.

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♦AK5  
♥Q104  
♦K82  
♣KQ103

**WEST**  
♠J10972  
♥K963  
♦1075  
♣4

**EAST**  
♠83  
♥52  
♦J964  
♣J865

**SOUTH**  
♦Q64  
♥AJ8  
♦AQ3  
♠A972

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 NT Pass 6 NT All Pass  
Opening lead — jack of spades.

**The Truth Rises to the Surface**

There are times when a falsecard by a defender may lead declarer down the pathway to disaster because he has no way of knowing whether the card played was a true card or not. In many of these cases, declarer can only hope he has his best guessing shoes on.

But there are also times when declarer can positively confirm whether the defender's play was an honest one. In such a case, declarer has only himself to blame if he misreads the situation.

Consider this deal where South was in six notrump. He won the spade lead in dummy and, since a heart finesse had to be taken sooner or later, led the queen and let it ride, losing to West's king.

Declarer won the spade return with the queen and had the rest of the tricks if he could score four club tricks. But when he next led a club to the king, East smoothly followed with the eight. East's purpose was to try to convince South that he might be short in clubs, and had declarer next led a low club to the ace, he would have gone down one.

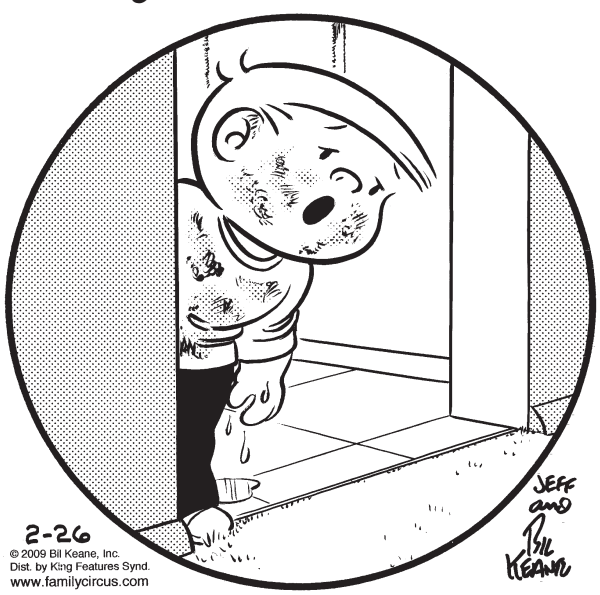
But South had seen a few falsecards in his time, so before committing himself in the club suit, he decided to first find out as much as he could about the adverse distribution. At trick five, he cashed dummy's high spade, on which East discarded a heart, disclosing that West had started with five spades. Next came the A-J of hearts, and when East discarded a diamond, West was proven to have started with four hearts.

Three rounds of diamonds, West following to each, completed the picture — West had started with exactly one club. South's course was now clear, so at trick 11, he cashed the club queen, then took a finesse against East's jack to make the slam.

East made a good try, but, unfortunately, South had come equipped with a lie detector.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

1								
9	6	1						
	2	7	3		4			
	1			8		5		
2	3		8	4			1	
	6		5	9	7			
			8	2			6	
								3

Difficulty Level ★★★

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

**Cryptoquip**

NV WZ WIRNFJM GMIM  
KZNQQMC LTR VILD KLDM  
ZMGK QTAJNFWRN LZ, GLTJC NR

AM FWJMC W QWQMI FJNQ?  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A CERTAIN MILITARY OFFICER IS DISCIPLINED, WOULD YOU CALL THAT CORPORAL PUNISHMENT?  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals I

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Send forth  
5 Grier or Dawber  
8 Feds  
12 A-line creator  
13 Mimic  
14 Wash lore  
15 Con  
16 Revolver  
17 Curved molding  
18 Unhealthy atmosphere  
20 Ascending  
22 Heavy weight  
23 Tasseled topper  
24 Hipsters' jargon  
27 Engrave  
32 Oklahoma city  
33 Peeples or Vardalos  
34 Gist  
35 Overwhelming  
38 Predicate part  
39 Exist  
40 "Eureka!"

**DOWN**

42 Money-back deal  
45 Tidbit  
49 Object of worship (Var.)  
50 Bill's partner  
52 Nastase of tennis lore  
53 Teller's companion  
54 That girl coming  
56 Vortex  
57 Raw rock  
58 Coloring agents

2 Reveal- ing  
3 Greek vowel  
4 Sad, on the Seine  
5 Violin virtuoso  
6 "Simpsons" store-keeper  
7 Carte  
8 Brooding, look  
9 Periodical  
10 Always  
11 Requisite  
19 Collins of "MADtv"  
21 Cpl.'s subordinate  
24 Boxing tactic  
25 Altar  
26 Tramp  
28 Diarist  
29 Native American  
30 Plant sticker  
31 Recede  
36 "Beverly Hillsbillies" role  
37 Permit  
38 Heterogeneous  
41 Crooner  
42 Mature  
43 Supplemented, with "out"  
44 Reverberate  
46 Dispatch a dragon  
47 Green land  
48 Photog's choice  
51 "— the fields we go"

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

P	O	L	S	A	I	M	O	H	M	S	
E	X	I	T	D	N	A	N	E	A	P	
C	E	R	E	M	O	N	Y	A	G	U	E
K	N	A	V	E	S	H	I	E	L	D	
J	A	I	N	C	A	A	R	M			
A	L	A	T	R	O	U	T				
B	E	L	U	N	I	T	H	Y	M	N	
T	O	N	D	O	L	E					
R	O	M	P	E	R						
A	L	O	E	A	N	T	I	M	O	N	Y
F	I	N	N	C	O	W	A	P	S	E	
T	O	Y	S	E	G	O	N	E	T	S	

Yesterday's answer 2-26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18			19			20	21			
			22				23			
24	25	26		27	28	29			30	31
32				33				34		
35			36	37				38		
			39				40	41		
42	43			44	45			46	47	48
49				50	51			52		
53				54				55		
56				57				58		